

MESSAGE BY ABBETT.

New Jersey's Retiring Governor
Reviews State Affairs.

No Floating Debt and No Matured
Bonds Extant.

Recommendations for the Consideration
of the Legislature.

TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 11.—Gov. Leon Abbott's last annual message was read in both houses of the Legislature yesterday. Gov. elect Werts will not assume office till Jan. 17, when his inaugural address will be made, Gov. Abbott, in his message, says:

"The State has no floating debt. The balance in the state Treasury at the close of the fiscal year was \$217,532 greater than the year before. The net expenditures for ordinary disbursements, special appropriations, payment on the war debt and for other purposes, amount to \$1,656,357.40. There is due on the old war debt \$857,400, with more than sufficient assets in the possession of the State to pay this debt."

"There are now in the State funds for the construction of roads, amounting to the sum of \$471,124.70, and the State owns 1,887 shares of the stock of the United New Jersey Railroad and Canal Companies which would now sell in the market for \$477,784, and also riparian leases, the principal sums of which amount to \$13,094.70, making a total of \$622,002.40 for the payment of this indebtedness of \$897,400. These war bonds would, therefore, be extinguished but for the fact that they are due, and the interest thereon demands a premium of 35 per cent. The debt is being extinguished as fast as it is legally possible."

"All the State boards and institutions are in excellent condition, and are being conducted as economically as possible, considerably below their cost."

"The liberal policy of the state towards miscellaneous corporations has induced numerous companies to locate here, and large amounts of foreign capital has thus been brought under our tax laws. The effect thereof is shown in the increase of revenue from taxes on foreign corporations, \$140,029.23 in 1892, while it was \$45,425.10. Many of these corporations come here merely for the purpose of securing the benefit of exemption from the stringent laws of other states imposing liability upon directors and stockholders."

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"The Attorney-General commend the work of the State Board of Taxation. The total assessed valuation of property in the state is \$1,000,000,000, and the amount of \$550,000,000 is paid in taxes. The state is not compelled to pay taxes, and protection to their citizens, among whom they are enabled to secure that representation in the legislature to which they are entitled, and, indeed, as they may freely exercise their right of taxation."

regular army. The total expenditures for the National Guard during the year, footed up not \$4,000,000.

In the Soldiers' Home at Kearny there were 1,000 men, and the total disbursements for the year were \$1,101,187, leaving a balance from the appropriation of \$65,847.50. At present there are no corporations and no war debts, and the State is in the hands of the State Banking. The Comptrollers report contains comparative statements of the growth and the Governor recommends the passage of a law providing for the appointment of a state officer to investigate upon the request of any citizen, and to ascertain in what manner he seems to require such investigation.

Recommendations in the message of the Governor in regard to the State police are renewed.

Statements of the condition of the Reform school for boys, the industrial school for girls, the State Normal School, and women are presented without any recommendation for legislation. The hon. Mr. Vining, for the uneducated children, is highly commended.

The language of the State assembly at Trenton and Morris Park is spoken of in terms of special commendation.

The Governor in his message of Aug. 25, held that the new law was not only unauthorized, but was expressly forbidden by the constitution, and that the administration, in so far as it concerned the proposed incorporation, was a corporate excess of power. The Chamberlain did not deny the propriety of the bill, but contended that the action was illegal, charging that the incorporation and orders of the Chamberlain had been wilfully and deliberately violated. The changes, then proposed, were adopted, so that the bill should not be approved by the legislative body.

Assuming advantages were taken, and the Chamberlain still had it under advisement.

An information was filed against the two lawyers, and the trial was adjourned.

Considerable space is devoted to the removal of legal increasing after the expiration of the term of the State assembly at Trenton and Morris Park is spoken of in terms of special commendation.

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LAW AND THE COAL COMBINE.

Attorney-General Stockton's Report of the Litigation Up to Date.

TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 10.—Attorney-General John P. Stockton has made a special report to Gov. Abbott in reference to the litigation on behalf of the state against the railroads concerned in the combine to control the price of coal.

On Jan. 1, he submitted to the Legislature the report of the State Board of Agriculture, and its recommendation of legislation providing for the collection of agricultural statistics is imminent.

The school property of the state amounts to \$10,004,236. The expenditures for schools during the year accommodations for 8,437 additional pupils were provided. The schools will accommodate 25,000 pupils. The value of the State Buildings, Jan. 1, 1892, was \$140,029.23. In 1892 it was \$45,425.10.

The National Guard of the State has been reorganized, with the result of a general reduction to the new drill regulations of the

regular army. The total expenditures for the National Guard during the year, footed up not \$4,000,000.

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